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RECORD OF POLITICAL EVENTS.

[From November 5, 1894, to May 16, 1895.]

I. THE UNITED STATES.

FOREIGN RELATIONS. — Certain incidents under this head have assumed greater prominence than the mere facts seem to warrant through the activity of a political group, embracing Democrats as well as Republicans, which aims to commit the United States to an aggressive foreign policy and to a vigorous policy of self-assertion and of territorial expansion. This group has manifested some strength in Congress and through the press, and has especially antagonized the administration, because of President Cleveland's attitude on Hawaiian and Samoan affairs. In connection with affairs in Latin America, much has been said as to the duty of interference by the United States as against European powers under the principles of the Monroe Doctrine. — Renewed rumors as to Great Britain's intention to establish a protectorate over **the Mosquito Coast** attracted some attention in November. The British government, however, gave explicit assurances that it neither desired nor intended to assert such a protectorate; and a convention was entered into between Nicaragua and the Indians which declared that the latter, while retaining certain privileges, became subject to the political and administrative authorities of Nicaragua. In connection with Great Britain's proceedings against Nicaragua in the spring (see below, p. 387) it was announced that the British government had satisfied the United States that no acquisition of territory was contemplated. — A grievance against Spain arose out of **the Alliança affair**. On March 8 the United States mail steamship *Alliança*, while passing the eastern point of Cuba, was fired upon with solid shot by a Spanish gunboat, which was stationed at that place to cut off communication by the insurgents with Hayti. The *Alliança's* captain claimed that he was on the high sea, six miles from the Cuban coast. On March 15, Secretary Gresham, through the American minister at Madrid, demanded of Spain "prompt disavowal of the unauthorized act," and insisted upon "immediate and positive orders" to Spanish commanders not to interfere with legitimate American commerce. On April 28 it was announced that Spain, after investigation, acknowledged that a mistake had been made and would make appropriate reparation. — The administration's **Hawaiian policy** has been watched with especial vigilance by the friends of annexation. On December 19 was made public a report of Admiral Walker, who had commanded a United States war ship at Honolulu in the preceding summer. In the report the admiral expressed deep suspicion as to British projects and influence in Hawaii, and strongly urged

that our navy should be represented at Honolulu as long as a British war ship was there. The despatches of the American minister, Mr. Willis, put an entirely different and wholly innocent construction on the incidents on which Admiral Walker's suspicions were founded. On January 9 President Cleveland transmitted to Congress, with a recommendation of favorable action, a request from the Hawaiian government that the United States should consent to the lease of an uninhabited island by Hawaii to Great Britain, to be used as a landing for the proposed cable between Canada and Australia. By the existing reciprocity treaty between Hawaii and the United States such a lease to any other foreign power is prohibited. No action was taken by Congress in the matter. Upon the news of the royalist uprising in Hawaii (see below, p. 387) much fault was found with the administration because no United States war ship was there at the time. A vessel was promptly sent, but on January 20 President Cleveland made a public statement that it was sent "not because there has been any change in the policy of the administration," but "from motives of extreme caution," because of possible danger to American citizens. The commander's instructions explicitly forbade him to extend protection to any American citizen who should have participated in the civil commotions. On February 21, Secretary Gresham asked for the recall of Mr. Thurston, the Hawaiian Minister at Washington, on the ground that the latter had furnished to the press matter reflecting on the administration. — A treaty with Japan, on the same lines as the Anglo-Japanese convention mentioned in the last RECORD, was concluded at Washington November 22, and was ratified by the Senate January 30. — Late developments in connection with **the Bering Sea seal fisheries** have caused some discussion. Statistics of the catch during the last season show that the pelagic sealers, chiefly Canadian, took 60,000 seals, mostly females, while the government's lessees at the Pribilof Islands took only 16,000, which, as required by law, were all males. Since in former years the catch at the islands easily reached 100,000, Secretary Carlisle has expressed the conviction that, despite the regulations agreed to by the Paris arbitration, the herd is doomed to extinction within five years. These regulations have had no effect in decreasing the pelagic catch; it has, on the contrary, greatly increased. Secretary Gresham's offer of \$425,000 in settlement of the claims of Canadian sealers against the United States (see last RECORD, p. 762) failed to secure the approval of Congress, the opposition contending that the proportion of claims allowed was excessive, and that some of the parties in interest were in fact American citizens. A proposition to appropriate money for a joint commission to determine the proper amount to be paid also failed, and upon the adjournment of Congress, the administration entered into negotiations with Great Britain for the settlement of the claims by arbitration.

INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION. — The first change in the *personnel* of the cabinet was announced by the resignation of Postmaster-General Bissell February 27. His retirement was due to personal business consid-

erations, and Congressman William L. Wilson, of West Virginia, was at once nominated and confirmed as his successor. The change took effect April 4. — In accordance with an act of Congress carrying out the recommendations of a joint commission (the Dockery Commission) on the business methods of the executive departments, a reorganization of the methods of the Treasury Department has been carried into effect. The most important change is in the accounting system. The offices of first and second comptroller and commissioner of customs have been abolished and their functions assigned to a single comptroller of the treasury, while the auditing business has been so arranged that each of the auditors has charge of all the accounts of a particular department. Reductions of 176 in the clerical force, and of nearly \$250,000 annually in expenses, have been effected by the reorganization in the accounting system alone. Other reforms, both in the Treasury and in other departments, bring the saving up to a much larger figure. — The annual report of Postmaster-General Bissell contained some important suggestions as to the **postal policy** of the government, which were endorsed by the president in his message to Congress. The deficit for the last fiscal year was nine millions, which Mr. Bissell thought could be reduced, but not extinguished, in the next two years. He announced a considerable saving through the abrogation of the subsidies for South American service, and laid the chief responsibility for the deficit upon the abuses that had grown up in connection with second-class matter. The handling of such matter, he showed, cost eight times as much as it brought in to the government — a fact that was due to the practice of entering as periodicals publications that in no proper sense fell into such a category. The postal telegraph and the extension of free delivery to rural districts he held to be undesirable and too expensive for this country. And finally, he made an earnest plea for some system by which the postmaster-general should be relieved from the burden of appointing fourth-class postmasters. — The inadequate administration of justice in the Indian Territory attracted considerable attention during November. Bands of desperadoes committed many robberies and murders, frequently "held up" railroad trains, and in some instances took possession of good-sized towns. The worst of the outlaws were ultimately captured by the national authorities. Attorney-General Olney, in his annual report, ascribed these recurring evils to insufficient appropriations for the expenses of the marshals in that wild and sparsely peopled country. It was recommended that a federal court be established in the Territory to exercise the jurisdiction that had hitherto fallen to the federal courts of Texas and Arkansas. — In December a further **extension of the classified service** was made by two orders of President Cleveland. By the first order, issued on the 7th, some 150 offices in the Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior, involving for the most part scientific and technical qualifications, were brought under the system of competitive examination; and on the 12th a similar order was issued with reference to storekeepers, gaugers and

clerks in the internal revenue service of the treasury, affecting in all about 2600 places. Mr. Roosevelt, of the Civil Service Commission, resigned his position April 30, to take office in the municipal government of New York.

THE FINANCES AND THE CURRENCY. — The difficulties of the treasury, on account of the deficit and of the diminution of the gold reserve, have constituted the leading topic in national politics during the period under review. During the first half of November, with the gold reserve at about \$62,000,000, and with expenses still ahead of receipts, the approach of a season when large export withdrawals of gold are usual led to **the first bond issue**. On November 13 subscriptions were invited for \$50,000,000 in ten-year five per cent bonds. On the 26th the whole issue was awarded to a syndicate at 117.077 — making the rate of interest 2.878 per cent. The proceeds of this loan raised the treasury gold in the first week in December to \$112,000,000, which sum, however, began at once to dwindle. Meanwhile, at the meeting of Congress, the secretary of the treasury had embodied in his report, with the president's approval, what became known as the **Carlisle scheme of currency reform**. The facts chiefly responsible for the treasury's inability to keep its gold, Mr. Carlisle pointed out, were the statutory requirements (1) to redeem in coin and then to reissue the government's notes, and (2) to maintain the parity of two kinds of coin of unequal intrinsic value. A prime necessity was to disconnect the treasury from any concern in the issue or reissue of legal-tender notes. But this would be expedient only on condition that provision could be made for a safe and elastic currency. To secure this the secretary proposed a reorganization of the national banking system on the following lines: Repeal the laws requiring the banks to secure their circulation by deposit of government bonds; permit the banks to issue notes up to 75 per cent of their capital, to be secured by (1) a guarantee fund of legal-tenders deposited by each bank amounting to 30 per cent of its circulation, (2) individual liability of the stockholders, and (3) a safety fund amounting to five per cent on the total circulation, to be made good, in case of impairment, by assessment of all the banks; abolish the requirement of a bank reserve on account of deposits; and repeal the tax on the circulation of such state banks as may conform to requirements for security substantially the same as those applicable to national banks. A capital advantage of this plan was held to be the protection given to the treasury against demands for redemption of the legal tenders, by the use of the latter in the guarantee fund. A bill embodying this plan was introduced in the House early in December, and after some changes in details, was approved by a Democratic caucus January 7. Two days later, however, the House refused, by 129 to 122, to accept the resolution of the committee on rules under which the bill was to be pressed to its passage, and this vote was a death-blow to the measure. The main elements in the opposition to the plan were on the one hand, the Republicans and Eastern Democrats who objected to a revival of state-bank currency and favored funding the paper currency,

and on the other hand, the Democrats and Western Republicans who felt that the bill left no hope for the free coinage of silver. — Various attempts in the Senate to formulate some plan that should give promise of success failed one after another, and meanwhile the treasury's gold was disappearing at an alarming rate. On January 28 the amount stood at \$52,463,173, the lowest point ever reached since resumption in 1879. On that day an energetic special message from President Cleveland presented to Congress in outline **the administration's second project as to the currency**. The message dwelt especially on the need, often urged before, of power to issue a low-rate bond, and on the absurdity of the arrangement under which the outstanding treasury notes could be used over and over again to drain away the gold. The recommendations included (1) the issue of a fifty-year three per cent bond, payable in gold, the proceeds to be used in maintaining the treasury's gold reserve and in redeeming legal-tender and treasury notes; (2) the cancellation of all notes so redeemed; (3) permission to national banks to circulate notes up to the par value of bonds deposited, such notes to be of denominations greater than \$10; (4) the limitation of silver certificates to denominations less than \$10; and (5) the requirement that import duties be payable only in gold. The president intimated that the failure of legislation would be followed by another bond issue on the old lines. A bill embodying the president's recommendations was, after sharp discussion, brought to a vote in the House February 7, and was rejected by 135 to 162. During this debate the Republicans took the formal ground that one important cause of the treasury's difficulties was the inadequate revenue provided by the last tariff act. The failure of this bill was followed quickly by **the second bond issue**. The drain of gold had been greatly accelerated during the debate, and on the day of the vote the treasury held only \$41,743,136. Much of the metal withdrawn was not for export, but for hoarding, and in some circles a serious panic was apprehended. On the 8th of February the president, in a message to Congress, announced the conclusion of a contract with the banking houses of Belmont, Rothschild and Morgan for the purchase of 3,500,000 ounces of gold, to be paid for in thirty-year four per cent coin bonds, on terms which made the price of the bonds about 104½, and their amount \$62,317,500. The contract provided that half the gold should be procured abroad, and gave to the government the privilege of substituting, within ten days, three per cent gold bonds at par for the coin four per cents, if legislation should authorize the issue of the former. The president pointed out the advantages of such legislation, showing that the substitution of "gold" for "coin" in the redemption clause would save half a million yearly in interest. Under other provisions of the contract, revealed when it was made public on the 13th, the bankers concerned were given an option on any other bonds that might be issued up to October 1, and on their part undertook "to exert all financial influence and [to] make all legitimate efforts to protect the treasury of the United States against the withdrawal of gold" during the period allowed

for the performance of their contract. The administration's operation excited violent hostility among the silver men, and many Republicans censured the contract as less favorable than might have been obtained. A resolution to authorize the issue of gold bonds, as suggested by the president, was introduced in the House, but was rejected February 14, by 120 to 167. A point insisted upon by the opposition was that, whereas our "coin" obligations had always hitherto been paid in gold, the proposed change would imply a change of policy in this respect and would therefore be ruinous to our credit. When, upon the failure of legislation, the syndicate began to put the four per cents upon the market, the loan was eagerly taken up in both London and New York, and the market quotation of the bonds rose at once to as high as 118. This fact occasioned violent attacks on the administration, both in Congress and out, for having accepted so low as 104½. In defense it was shown that a suspension of gold payments, at least at the New York sub-treasury, was within forty-eight hours of realization when the contract was made, and that this fact put the government at the mercy of the bankers. — **The deficit in the revenue** continued throughout the period under review to complicate the general situation. Secretary Carlisle's report to Congress announced that the deficit for the year ending June 30, 1894, was \$69,803,260. He estimated for the current year a deficit of \$20,000,000, and for the succeeding year a surplus of over \$28,000,000. The probability of improvement he based on expectations of future returns from the sugar tax, the reduced woollens duties, which would become operative after January 1, 1895, and the income tax, which would not begin to be productive till July, 1895. An improvement in revenue was manifested during the winter, but failed later to realize anticipations, and at the close of the RECORD a deficit of at least \$45,000,000 seemed probable for the fiscal year. The income-tax decision (see below, p. 369) was held responsible in a large degree for the failure of the treasury's estimates. Shortly after April 15, when the returns, as amended to conform to the court's decision, were all in, the net revenue to be expected from the tax was found to be less than fifteen millions. — A concerted movement for a **National Free Silver Party** in the West and South has attracted considerable attention during the spring. A definite attempt to commit the national committee of the Populists to temporary abandonment of all but the free-coinage plank of their platform failed. But much sympathy with the free-coinage movement has been displayed by many Democratic and Populist state organizations, and in Illinois and several other states a total disruption of the Democratic Party at one time seemed imminent. A large convention of Western silver men was in session at Salt Lake City in the middle of May.

CONGRESS. — The third session of the fifty-third Congress opened December 3. President Cleveland's annual message was quite destitute of sensational features. The review of foreign relations was held to demonstrate the advantage of adhering to "a firm but just foreign policy, free from envious or ambitious national schemes, and characterized by entire honesty

and sincerity." The president's most important suggestion was a repetition of that made in the preceding year, looking to a withdrawal from the existing Samoan treaty. As to internal affairs, the following were among the recommendations made, in addition to the endorsement of those made by heads of departments and noticed elsewhere in this RECORD: That money be appropriated for additional battle ships and torpedo boats for the navy; that adequate protection be provided for our forest reserves and that a comprehensive forestry system be established; that the further allotment of land in severalty to Indians be very cautiously made, and with modifications in method that shall obviate the conspicuous evils developed by the system hitherto; and finally, in connection with the tariff, that coal and iron be put on the free list, that the differential duty on sugar from countries paying an export bounty be abrogated, and that foreign-built ships be admitted to American registry. — The session of Congress was not productive of **legislation** outside of the usual routine. Currency questions excited the most attention, and these are noticed elsewhere. In connection with the tariff and income-tax legislation of the last session, a feeble attempt was made in the Senate to take up for action the so-called "pop-gun bills" for adding coal, iron and sugar to the free list, passed by the House in August (see last RECORD, p. 765). A test vote on taking up the Sugar Bill was decided in the negative, December 12, by 27 to 23, and the general sentiment against any tariff changes dominated the Senate during the remainder of the session. In the House a bill to repeal the differential duty of one-tenth of a cent on sugar from countries which paid an export bounty was passed, January 29, by 239 to 31. To mitigate the injustice done to sugar producers by the abrupt stoppage of the bounty at the passage of the last tariff act, an appropriation of \$5,238,289 was made to prolong the payment of the bounty so as to affect sugars produced before June 30, 1895. As no appropriation had been made at the previous session for the expenses of collecting the income tax, an urgency deficiency bill providing the money was passed in January, and by joint resolution the time within which returns of income must be filed was extended from March 1 to April 15. A demonstration against the administration's Hawaiian policy was involved in a vote of the Senate, February 9, authorizing the president to contract for laying a cable to Hawaii. The proposition passed the Senate 36 to 25, but was lost in the House by 152 to 114. The friends of a strong foreign policy also found especial interest in the bill for incorporating a Nicaragua Canal Company, which passed the Senate January 25 by 31 to 21. Under this bill the United States was to guarantee the company's bonds and was to hold seven-tenths of the \$100,000,000 of capital stock. The bill was not acted upon by the House. Important measures on which the House of Representatives acted were as follows: An amendment to the Interstate Commerce Act by which "railway pooling," previously prohibited, is permitted, under the supervision of the Commission — passed December 12, by 164 to 110; a bill to refund the debts of the Pacific railways — recom-

mitted without instructions, February 2, by 177 to 108; a Compulsory Arbitration Bill, providing for the settlement of labor disputes by arbitrators, whose decision should be enforceable by the United States courts acting as courts of equity—passed without division February 26.—According to the statement of the chairman of the appropriations committee the total appropriations by the fifty-third Congress amounted to \$990,338,691, about thirty-seven millions less than those of the preceding Congress, the difference being due chiefly to the pension account.

THE FEDERAL SUPREME COURT.—The decision on the **Income Tax Cases**, several of which had been pushed through to the highest tribunal since the process of collection was begun in January, was rendered April 8. The constitutionality of the law had been assailed on a variety of grounds, and the judgment of the court was as follows: 1. So much of the act (see this RECORD for June, 1894, p. 355) as attempts to impose a tax upon the rent or income of real estate without apportionment is invalid; since such a tax is a tax on real estate, and is therefore a "direct tax," which must under the constitution be apportioned among the states. 2. The act is invalid so far as it attempts to levy a tax on incomes from state or municipal bonds; since such a tax is a tax on the power of a state to borrow money, and is therefore unconstitutional. On the other important points presented by the cases it was announced that the court, Justice Jackson being absent through illness, was evenly divided. The questions involved in this announcement were: 1. Whether the void provisions as to income from real estate invalidated the whole act. 2. Whether, as to the income from personal property as such, the act was unconstitutional as laying direct taxes. 3. Whether any part of the tax, if not considered as a direct tax, was invalid as not fulfilling the constitutional requirement of uniformity. Upon a petition by counsel for a rehearing upon the whole case, in order to determine the unsettled points, the court ordered, April 23, that in the event of Justice Jackson's speedy recovery, which was expected, a rehearing would be had. Accordingly counsel were heard by the full bench May 6–8, but no decision had been made at the close of this RECORD.—In the case of *United States vs. the E. C. Knight Co. et al.*, which was a suit instituted by the attorney-general against what was formerly the Sugar Trust, the supreme court, January 21, held: That the contracts and acts through which the American Sugar Refining Company absorbed certain Pennsylvania corporations, and thus secured control of about 98 per cent of the refining business of the country, related exclusively to the acquisition of a manufacturing business and "bore no direct relation to commerce among the several states or with foreign nations"; and that therefore the combination thus effected was not illegal under the Anti-Trust Act of 1890. In connection with **questions of interstate commerce** the following decisions have been rendered: *Plumley vs. Commonwealth*, December 10: Held, that the Massachusetts law prohibiting the sale of substances colored to imitate yellow butter, did

not, when applied to oleomargarine imported from another state and sold in the original package, conflict with the exclusive right of Congress to regulate interstate commerce. *Emert vs. Missouri*, March 4: Held, that the Missouri act requiring a peddler's license of every one who carried about commodities for sale, did not, when applied to the agent of a manufacturer in another state, conflict with the interstate commerce clause. *Coal Company vs. Bates*, March 4: Held, that coal brought in boats from Pennsylvania to Louisiana and remaining in the boats pending use or sale was subject to taxation by the latter state, and that the collection of a state tax was not an unconstitutional restriction of interstate commerce.

THE ELECTIONS. — The result of the voting throughout the country on November 6 was an overwhelming triumph for the Republicans. As to **Congress**, for the House of Representatives a Republican majority of about 140 was returned, and the control of the Senate was lost by the Democrats through the changes in the state legislatures. Many of the most prominent Democrats in the House failed of reelection, among whom were Wilson of West Virginia, Springer of Illinois, Holman of Indiana, and Bland of Missouri. In twenty-four states, including New Jersey, West Virginia, Connecticut and Indiana, the Democrats failed to elect a single member, and in each of six others but a single non-Republican was returned. Pennsylvania chose two Democrats out of 30 members; Illinois, two out of 22; Ohio, two out of 21; and New York, five out of 34. The returns of the voting for **state officers** showed the same general results. Great Republican majorities were the rule. Thus in New York Senator Hill, the Democratic candidate for governor, was defeated by ex-Vice-President Morton by 156,000; Illinois and Wisconsin, which went over to the Democrats in 1892, now came back into the Republican line by 123,000 and 54,000 respectively. Most significant of the results, however, were the losses of the Populists in the West and of the Democrats in the South. Four Western states whose government had been under Populist control — Kansas, Colorado, North Dakota and Idaho — were carried by the Republicans. In Nebraska the fusion (Populist and Democratic) candidate for governor was elected, while the Republicans carried the rest of the ticket. In the border states of the South heavy Democratic losses were the rule. Delaware, Maryland, West Virginia and Missouri went strongly Republican on Congressional or state tickets, or both. In North Carolina a Republican-Populist fusion secured the legislature and most of the Congressmen. The Republicans gained one Congressman in Virginia, one in Texas and two in Tennessee. In Tennessee the Republican candidate for governor, Evans, had 700 majority on the face of the returns. But the legislature, which had a Democratic majority, declined to recognize his election, instituted an investigation of alleged frauds, and on May 3 adopted a report of the committee declaring the Democratic candidate, Turney, elected. The latter was accordingly inaugurated May 8. The Populists in Alabama secured one Congressman, and Kolb, their candidate for gover-

nor, claiming that the majority against him was due to fraud, took the oath of office as elected, but made no further effort to assert his position. Elsewhere in the South the normal Democratic majorities appeared, not even the formal revolt of the Louisiana sugar planters showing any influence on the returns. — Considerable interest was excited by the question as to the **influence of the American Protective Association** in the elections. This organization, popularly known by the initials A. P. A., first manifested itself in the West some five years ago, and has now extended throughout the country. It is a secret association, devoted to resisting the influence of foreigners, and especially of Roman Catholics, upon American life. The methods of its activity vary widely in different places, and both methods and results are largely conjectural, owing to the secrecy which characterizes the order. In general its work seems to be more in connection with local and municipal politics than in the broader field, and it takes especial interest in educational matters. The officers of the association claimed that the result of the elections in November was largely due to its work; but so far as the external evidence goes, there is little basis for this claim. Any suspicion of affiliation with the A. P. A. was manifestly dreaded by the political leaders of both parties, as likely to do more harm than good. — Spring elections for various state officers in Rhode Island, Michigan and Wisconsin showed the same Republican majorities as before.

LABOR INTERESTS. — In this field attention has centered chiefly on the later **developments in connection with the great railway strike** of last summer. A commission appointed by President Cleveland to investigate the strike, and presided over by Labor Commissioner Wright, made its report in November. After a long and impartial consideration of the different causes working to bring about disputes between railroad corporations and employees, the report recommended: (1) that a permanent national strike commission be established, with powers of investigation and recommendation in such disputes, its decisions to be enforceable summarily by the courts, and discharges of employees by the companies as well as strikes or boycotts by the employees to be unlawful pending the commission's action; (2) that the various states adopt some system of conciliation and arbitration similar to that in Massachusetts, and prohibit by law contracts requiring men not to belong to labor organizations; and (3) that employers recognize and deal with labor organizations, keep as closely as possible in touch with labor, raise wages voluntarily when possible, and give reasons for reductions when such are necessary. — The decision of the court in the case of Debs and others, charged with contempt in violating the great injunction of July 2 (see last RECORD, p. 770), was announced at Chicago December 14. Judge Woods held that under the Anti-Trust Law of 1890 the action of the strikers was illegal, that the court had power to restrain their acts by injunction, that the defendants violated the injunction, and that they were therefore in contempt. Accordingly he sentenced Debs to six months, and the others to three months, in the county jail. On an

application for a writ of *habeas corpus* the case was brought before the supreme court at Washington, where it was argued in March. Pending this appeal the trial of the prisoners on the indictments for conspiracy was postponed, and on April 28 the postponement was made indefinite by the government, on the ground that all the vital facts were before the supreme court, and hence further action on the indictments would be persecution. — The only strike of any especial magnitude during the period under review was that of the trolley-line employees in Brooklyn, N. Y., in January. Travel by the surface street-cars was for a time almost entirely stopped in the city, and order was maintained with difficulty by two brigades of militia. The companies readily secured men to take the places of the strikers, and the latter ultimately abandoned the strike. — In the great labor organizations the only important event was the defeat of President Gompers of the American Federation for reelection, and the choice for the position of John McBride, the leader of the Mine Workers, whose successful strike was noticed in the last RECORD. This change involved the transfer of headquarters from New York to Indianapolis.

VARIOUS STATE LEGISLATION.—A great many propositions respecting **constitutional amendments** were voted upon at the November elections. The question of calling a convention for revision was decided affirmatively in Delaware and South Carolina (though not without question as to the returns in the latter state), but failed in New Hampshire to elicit enough votes to constitute a valid answer. In New York the revision of the constitution noticed in the last RECORD was ratified by a large majority. Michigan adopted a proposition excluding from the suffrage aliens who had merely declared their intention to become citizens of the United States. In California nine amendments were voted upon, of which seven were ratified. Of the seven the most important were (1) that requiring as a qualification for the suffrage that the citizen shall be able "to read the constitution in the English language and write his name"; (2) that exempting young fruit and nut trees and grapevines from taxation; and (3) that forbidding the ownership of real estate by aliens. One of the rejected propositions provided for an increase in the salary of members of the legislature. — **The woman suffrage question** has been before the public in a variety of forms and with a variety of results. In Colorado the women made free use of the right which they enjoyed for the first time at the election in November, and the overthrow of the Populists was said to be attributable in some measure to the new voters. Kansas rejected the proposed constitutional amendment giving women the full suffrage by 130,000 to 95,000. Resolutions for the submission of a like amendment passed the Oregon legislature in February and the New York legislature in April. In Maine a woman-suffrage bill, after passing the lower house, was rejected by the Senate, March 20. In Wisconsin, also, a similar bill failed to pass. On the 5th of April the convention engaged in the formation of a state constitution for Utah adopted a woman-suffrage clause by 75 to 15. This clause was

stoutly opposed by the Gentile element both in and out of the convention, on the ground that it would especially favor the Mormons. — Among the important **judicial decisions** on state laws have been the following : At Cincinnati, March 30, the Ohio direct inheritance tax was declared unconstitutional, as being in the nature of an excise, but not uniform in its operation ; at Mt. Vernon, March 15, the Illinois supreme court declared unconstitutional the law limiting the work of women factory employees to eight hours a day, on the ground that it was an unreasonable abridgment of the inherent and inalienable right to make contracts ; at Omaha, November 26, the United States district court held unconstitutional the Nebraska maximum freight rate law. The Illinois attorney-general's efforts to enforce the state Anti-Trust Law were rewarded with a decision by a lower court, March 30, that a school-furniture company fell under the prohibitions of the law. Two decisions of the United States circuit court at Charleston, May 8, in respect to state acts of South Carolina, excited great interest. The first made permanent an injunction against proceedings for the election of delegates to a constitutional convention, on the ground that the registration and election laws of the state were invalid under both the state and the federal constitution. The suit in this case was an incident of a faction fight among the Democrats ; the majority faction announced its purpose to disfranchise the negroes by a constitutional amendment, and the minority undertook to thwart this purpose. The second decision made permanent an injunction restraining state officers from interfering, under the Dispensary Law, with any liquor brought from other states for consumption and not for sale, on the ground that the provisions of the law in reference to the importation of liquors were an encroachment on the power of Congress over interstate commerce. The cases have been carried to the Supreme Court of the United States.

MUNICIPAL REFORM. — A movement which for two years has been developing in a number of the large cities has during the last months assumed especial prominence. The general aim of the movement has been to secure greater intelligence and efficiency in city government, to direct the activity of the authorities into the field of social rather than purely political interests, and in general to cut off municipal from national and state politics. In New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago and other cities non-partisan organizations for the ends mentioned have kept up a constant and more or less effective agitation. A considerable impetus was given to the movement by the success of the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst in exposing a very corrupt state of affairs in the police department of New York City. The Lexow Investigating Committee, appointed by the legislature, brought to light during the summer and fall a widespread system of bribery and blackmail, and this proved a strong influence in the municipal elections in November. By a combination of citizens irrespective of party the Tammany Democracy, which had controlled the government for some years, was overthrown and a mayor was installed who was devoted to the program of the

reformers. The full realization of their projects, however, was thwarted by the opposition of partisan influence, both Democratic and Republican, in the legislature. In San Francisco, at the November elections, a non-partisan and reform movement resulted in the choice as mayor of Mr. Sutro, whose candidacy was in opposition to the corporations that controlled the railways of the city. As to Chicago, where during the autumn a campaign against police corruption in connection with gambling houses had met with success, the reform organization succeeded in March in getting through the legislature a bill establishing the merit system in the civil service of the city, and this project was ratified at the municipal elections April 2.

LYNCH LAW.—A serious affair at New Orleans was the climax of long-standing friction between white and negro 'longshoremen on the levee. Owing to trouble with the labor-union of the whites, the cotton-shippers and other interested employers gave all the work to negroes. After many cases of isolated outrage the whites, on March 11 and 12, made an organized attack on the negroes with firearms, in the course of which seven men were killed and many more wounded. The negroes ultimately resumed work under protection of the militia, and apparently earnest efforts were made to punish the offenders. — In Brooks County, Georgia, December 23, a body of white men in pursuit of a negro murderer incidentally killed three other negroes who were supposed to be aiding the fugitive. In this instance, as in several others in Georgia, the lawless proceedings were stopped by the despatch of militia to the scene. — About the usual number of isolated lynchings were reported from the South, and for the usual causes. In at least one case, the victim was already under sentence of death by the regular court. In Louisiana several negroes who were indicted for hanging a murderer of their own race were acquitted in January on the general ground that their privileges in the matter of extra-judicial action were not less than those of the whites. At Memphis, Tennessee, the trial of the perpetrators of the murder of six negroes, as reported in the last RECORD, resulted in an acquittal, December 14, despite a moral certainty of their guilt. At Cincinnati, January 5, an Ohio judge refused to grant a Kentucky demand for extradition of a negro charged with shooting a man, on the ground, first, that the number of lynchings lately in Kentucky created a presumption that the prisoner, if sent back, would die without legal process, and second, that the governor and trial judge in Kentucky had refused to weaken this presumption by a formal assurance, which had been requested, that the prisoner should be protected from mob violence and should receive a fair trial. — Outside of the South the chief events in this field have occurred in Nebraska and Colorado. In Nebraska, January 1, a defaulting county treasurer, who was out on bail after conviction and sentence for his crime, was seized and hanged by a party of masked men. At Walsenburg, Colorado, March 12 and 13, a mob of miners killed six Italians who were accused of murdering an American, two of the victims having been taken from jail.

II. FOREIGN NATIONS.

EUROPEAN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. — The respective interests of **France and Great Britain in Africa** were brought into prominence in March by a report that a French expedition had entered the upper Nile valley. In the House of Commons, March 28, Sir Edward Grey, under-secretary for foreign affairs, made a statement declaring that the British and Egyptian spheres of influence covered the whole of the Nile waterway and that the sending of an expedition into that region would be regarded as an unfriendly act on the part of the French government. He admitted, however, that he had no reason to suppose that any such act had been committed. The French minister of foreign affairs, M. Hanotaux, replied to the British declaration in a speech in the Senate in which he demanded that Great Britain should be explicit as to her claims in the Nile valley, and should distinguish between those of herself and those of Egypt. The regions in question, he said, if they belonged legitimately to any one, belonged to the Khedive, subject to the overlordship of the Sultan, and France declined to recognize a vague indefinite claim by England that should prematurely settle the future of enormous territories. Questions as to other regions of Africa were in process of diplomatic adjustment by the two powers, M. Hanotaux said, but as to the Nile matter he had never been able to get any definite presentation of Great Britain's claim. — In view of the proposed transfer of the Congo State to Belgium, a treaty was agreed to February 5 in which Belgium formally recognized France's right of preëmption in case of alienation. — Upon the announcement of the Porte's resolution to send a commission to investigate **the atrocities in Armenia**, Great Britain, Russia and France took steps toward an independent joint investigation. Ultimately, however, the powers concluded to send representatives to accompany the Turkish commissioners, with power to question the witnesses. — **A coalition against Japan** was caused by the terms of peace imposed upon China in the treaty of Shimonoseki (see below, pp. 386-7). Russia objected strenuously to the acquisition by Japan of territory in Manchuria, where Russia has long desired to secure a seaport. It was announced April 24 that Germany and France had joined Russia in a representation to Japan against several clauses of the treaty. Great Britain declined to join the coalition. On May 6 it was announced that Japan, in deference to the representations of the powers, had abandoned her claim to territory on the mainland, and would find compensation in an increase of the war indemnity.

GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND. — Political and social life in the United Kingdom has been quite destitute of striking incidents. Ireland has been almost abnormally quiet. The platform campaign preceding the opening of Parliament failed to arouse the expected popular enthusiasm for the abolition of the House of Lords. Two Conservative victories in by-

elections in November and December seemed to indicate, on the contrary, a serious lack of confidence in Lord Rosebery's proposed program (see last RECORD, p. 775). **Parliament** met February 5. The queen's speech noted the fact that offenses against the law in Ireland had sunk to the lowest level as yet recorded. Proposed legislation included bills for modifying Irish land law and for dealing with the evicted tenants; for Welsh disestablishment; for local veto in the liquor traffic; and for the abolition of plural voting. The government's majority, at the outset only 33, was promptly reduced to 14 by the formal defection of the Parnellite faction of the Irish Nationalists on the ground that no home-rule measure had been announced. The slender margin left proved sufficient, however, to carry the ministry through several vigorous attacks by the opposition designed to force either resignation or dissolution. The narrowest majority was on a motion for an amendment to the address dealing with the agricultural depression and the unemployed, February 8, the government prevailing by twelve votes. The government agreed to appoint a commission to investigate the condition of the unemployed. Later on in the session the government's position became somewhat stronger on account of manifestations of friction and lack of harmony between the Conservatives and the Liberal Unionists. None of the government's leading measures has been passed up to the end of this RECORD. The Welsh Disestablishment Bill was introduced by Mr. Asquith, February 25. It provided that in Wales and Monmouthshire the Church of England should cease to be an established church from January 1, 1897; that the jurisdiction of ecclesiastical courts should cease, and the principles of contract and trust should govern in matters respectively of discipline and property; and that the revenues of the church should be vested for administration and settlement in a commission, whose duties were prescribed in great detail. This measure passed its second reading, April 1, by 304 to 260. The Irish Land Bill was introduced by Mr. Morley, March 4. The leading purpose of the measure, he explained, was to insure that the tenant should not be charged rent upon his own improvements. It was further provided that the statutory term for which rents should be fixed by the court should hereafter be ten instead of fifteen years, and that the landlord's right of preëmption should be abolished. The evicted tenants were by the bill given the same opportunities to resume relations with the landlords that were given by the act of 1891. The bill passed its second reading without a division, April 5. The Local Veto Bill, read the first time April 8, was designed to give to local divisions the right to determine by popular vote questions as to the prohibition or regulation of the liquor traffic. It provided that a vote for prohibition should require a two-thirds majority and should go into effect after four years and remain unchangeably in force for three; and that limitation of the number of liquor sellers, Sunday-closing and other regulations could be put in force by a mere majority vote. Sir William Harcourt's budget statement was made May 2. It announced a surplus last year of £776,000, and

an estimated deficit for the coming year of £319,000. This latter, due to increased naval expenditures, he declared should be met by an additional tax on beer. — Among the casual matters acted upon by the House of Commons were the following: A motion that the House regards with apprehension the fluctuation and divergence of the values of gold and silver and recognizes the evils arising therefrom — accepted by the government and adopted without a division, February 26; a resolution approving the principle of payment of members of the House of Commons — accepted by the government and adopted, March 22, by 176 to 158. Upon the resignation of Speaker Peel, Mr. William Court Gully was elected his successor, April 10, by a party vote of 285 to 274, the Parnellites voting with the opposition.

THE BRITISH COLONIES AND INDIA. — A cabinet reorganization in Canada was rendered necessary by the sudden death of Premier Thompson, December 12, at Windsor Castle, England, where he had just had an audience with the queen. He was succeeded as premier by the Hon. Mackenzie Bowell. The new cabinet was confronted in March with a very serious political situation arising out of new developments in the long-standing **Manitoba School Question**. From the judgment of the Dominion supreme court noted in this RECORD for June, 1893 (p. 367), an appeal was taken by the Catholics to the privy council at London, and on January 29 a decision was rendered reversing that of the lower court. It was held that the Manitoba School Act of 1890 did prejudicially affect the rights and privileges of the Roman Catholic minority, that because of this an appeal to the Dominion government for remedial action was admissible, and that that government had power to issue the proper remedial commands. The announcement of this decision roused much feeling among Protestants not only in Manitoba but in other parts of the Dominion. It was expected that the government would dissolve Parliament on the issue of their duty in the premises; but after some manifestations of uncertainty and division of opinion, it was determined, March 18, to issue an order requiring Manitoba to restore the separate-school privileges of the Catholics. The order aroused much indignation among the Protestant majority of Manitoba, and the Orange Societies in Ontario and the other provinces gave strong demonstrations of sympathy with this feeling. At the close of this RECORD a compromise adjustment was said to be under discussion. — The social turmoil which seems to have become the normal condition of **Newfoundland** has centered recently in a disastrous financial crisis which manifested itself in a general bank suspension about December 10. Great industrial depression and acute distress among the population existed throughout the winter. Politically, the party whose triumph under the application of the Corrupt Practices Act was noticed in the last RECORD has been overthrown. Elections in November gave to the opposition, the Whitewayites, control of the legislature; the disabilities of the convicted leaders were removed by law, the ministry resigned upon the development of the financial crisis, and, after

six weeks of an interim ministry, on the first of February Sir William Whiteway and his former associates again assumed the reins of government. The grave difficulties of the colony's industrial and financial situation caused serious discussion through the winter as to union with Canada. Though there was much popular opposition to the project, a delegation from the Newfoundland ministry met in conference with representatives of the Dominion government at Ottawa, April 4-17, and negotiations on the bases for confederation were continued after this. By the close of this RECORD, however, the hopelessness of any agreement on the financial arrangements was generally admitted. — The **Australian federation** movement received a new impetus from the action of a conference of Australian premiers at Hobart, Tasmania, February 1. All the colonies were represented and resolutions were adopted declaring that federation was the great question in Australian politics, and that the method of bringing it about should be through a convention to frame a constitution, which, if ratified by popular vote in three or more colonies, should be submitted to the queen with a prayer for the necessary legislation by the British Parliament. A bill embodying the provisions necessary to carry this plan into effect was drafted for submission to each colonial legislature. — The matter of cotton duties in **India** (see this RECORD for June, 1894, p. 367) was settled by action of the Legislative Council in January, whereby the five per cent duty was imposed, but was accompanied by a countervailing excise on all the better grades of goods in which there was possibility of real competition by the Indian mills with those of Manchester. The excise was opposed by the solid vote of the non-official members of the council, and was supported by the officials only on the ground of direct orders from England. A war with the ruler of Chitral, a native kingdom on the northern frontier, was brought to a successful conclusion late in April.

FRANCE. — The instability of the French executive has been illustrated not only by the usual change of ministry, but also by another **change in the presidency**. The Dupuy ministry retained its position till the middle of January, though the weakness of the Moderates was indicated by the election of the Radical Brisson as president of the Chamber after the death of M. Burdeau, December 12. On the 13th of January M. Barthou, the minister of public works, resigned, on account of a decision by the council of state that the contracts of the government with certain railways guaranteed their securities until 1956, instead of only till 1914, as the government contended. The Radicals took up the subject the next day and on an interpellation defeated the ministry by 263 to 241. On the following day, January 15, the intention of President Casimir-Périer to resign his office was made public, and on the 16th the resignation was laid before the chambers. The communication indicated, rather than definitely declared, that the reasons for the action were, first, an intense irritation on account of the campaign of personal abuse which the Radical and Socialist press had kept up ever since Casimir-Périer's election, and second, an overwhelm-

ing consciousness of the lack of real power, as compared with the moral responsibility, attaching to the presidential office. It was reported on apparently good authority that the attitude of the Dupuy cabinet toward the president had been such as to emphasize the insignificance of his office in the actual conduct of the government. The election at Versailles on the 17th resulted in the choice of M. Félix Faure, a Moderate, on the second ballot, by 460 votes, to 361 for M. Brisson, the Radical candidate. An incident of the excitement that prevailed during the three days of uncertainty was the issue of a manifesto by the Duc d'Orléans, from Dover, England, calling upon the Royalists to do what was most likely to preserve order, as the republic was only temporary, at the best. In fact most of the Royalists voted for Faure. An attempt to organize a **new ministry** on the concentration principle under M. Bourgeois, the Radical, proved unsuccessful, and recourse was then had to M. Ribot, who announced a ministry of Moderates, January 26. The new premier declared that his work would practically be limited to passing the budget. At the reassembling of the chambers, January 28, President Faure's inaugural message was presented. Its salient features were personal gratitude and confidence in French democracy. — The confusion in the executive rendered the session of the legislature fruitless of important legislation. The Ribot ministry signalized its assumption of power by the passage of a bill giving full amnesty for offenses against internal security, in respect to the press and public meetings, and in connection with elections and with strikes, and further for the misdeeds of priests who had interfered in politics. A notable result of this act was the return to France of M. Henri Rochefort, who had been for some time in exile. — The budget for 1895 was not adopted till April 13, provisional appropriations being made for the first four months. The scheme of tax reform proposed by M. Poincaré, of the Dupuy ministry, involving a progressive succession duty, had to be abandoned, and M. Ribot's final budget established an equilibrium by taking fourteen millions from the accumulations of the *Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations*.

GERMANY. — The Prussian cabinet reorganization which was in progress at the close of the last RECORD was completed during November by the appointment of Baron von Hammerstein as minister of agriculture and Dr. Schönstedt as minister of justice. — The Hohenlohe ministry has made no greater progress than did Caprivi in his later career toward securing a definite support for the government's policy in the **Reichstag**. That body assembled December 5 and took possession of its new building with due ceremony. The speech from the throne announced bills for the better maintenance of public security, for bourse regulation, for an imperial tobacco tax and for a general reform of the system of taxation as between the empire and the states. Only the first of these ("*Umsturzvorlage*") was new, and upon it attention was chiefly centered. The measure provided increased penalties for incitement to crimes of a revolutionary or anarchistic tendency, especially such as might affect military discipline, and made penal

any public attacks through insulting expressions, and in a manner endangering the public peace, on "religion, the monarchy, marriage, the family or property." Opposition to the bill by the Socialists and Radicals was strong from the outset, and the key to the situation was held by the Clericals. This latter party succeeded in the committee in securing important amendments to the bill. Especial hostility on the part of the liberals was aroused by the amendment which penalized attacks on "the belief in God or the dogmas of the church," and by that which repealed the old *Kulturkampf* law forbidding the clergy to endanger the peace by political discussions in the pulpit. The debate on the second reading of the bill in the Reichstag began May 6, and on the 11th, after the principal clauses had been rejected by large majorities, the government abandoned the bill. The government's tobacco tax bill was likewise defeated May 13. Its other projects have reached no definite conclusion. The **agitation of the Agrarians** for relief to agriculture has been energetically carried on both within and without the Reichstag. The extremists of the party formulated their wishes in the Kanitz Bill, which proposed a government monopoly of the grain-importing business in Prussia, under regulations that would insure the raising of prices. This project was flatly opposed by the government. On the other hand the government's acceptance of the Reichstag's resolution of February 16 in favor of an international conference on the monetary situation was regarded as an effort to placate the bimetalist party among the Agrarians. Another act of concession to the agitation was the summoning of the Prussian state council, which met March 12 under the presidency of the emperor in person. The work of the council, whose sessions were secret, was to consider projects for raising the price of grain, sugar and spirits, for promoting the sale of agricultural products, for developing credit and for settling laborers in the rural districts. A host of propositions that had already been brought forward in the agitation of the Agrarians were laid before the council, but so far as made public the conclusions of that body went no further than an approval of the project of a monetary conference, a recommendation of an increase in the sugar bounty and of reductions in railway grain tariffs, and some resolutions of minor importance. The drastic and almost revolutionary measures urged by the leading Agrarians received no countenance from the council. — **Honor to Bismarck** has been a central point in both governmental policy and popular feeling during the period under review. Chancellor von Hohenlohe made an ostentatious pilgrimage to the old statesman at Friedrichsruh January 13. During the winter preparations were begun for an imposing demonstration in honor of Bismarck's eightieth birthday on April 1, and for two weeks or more about that date all Germany and many foreign lands rendered homage in a great variety of forms to the ex-chancellor. The emperor and his court were most conspicuous in the general enthusiasm, visiting Friedrichsruh with the most elaborate ceremony on March 26. A discordant note was sounded only in the refusal of the

Reichstag, March 23, to send a formal and official congratulation to Bismarck. The proposition was defeated by 163 to 146, Socialists, Radicals, Poles, Guelphs and Clericals making up the majority. Much wrath was aroused by this incident. The emperor expressed to Bismarck his "profound indignation" at the Reichstag's action, and the Conservative president and National-Liberal vice-president of the body testified their anger by resigning their offices. It was at first supposed that the incident would lead to a dissolution of the Reichstag; but the emperor's reported expressions indicating such a purpose were afterwards disavowed. — The Prussian Diet, which opened January 15, was occupied chiefly with financial questions arising out of the standing deficit. Little progress was made toward a definite solution, owing to the connection of the matter with the unsettled questions of imperial finance and with the agricultural depression.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY. — **Cisleithan political life** has been relatively uneventful. Premier Windischgrätz announced November 27 that, owing to difficulties that had arisen in connection with the government's Electoral Reform Bill, it had been resolved to frame a new and comprehensive measure in coöperation with representatives of the various parties in the Reichsrath. A committee was accordingly constituted which labored through the winter over the new project. The result of the labor has not been officially announced. In the Reichsrath the chief work of the session was a readjustment of taxation, involving the establishment of taxes on profits (*Erwerbsteuer*), corporations, rents and personal income. The municipal elections in Vienna in the latter part of March revealed a great development of anti-Semitism in that city. — In the Transleithan half of the dual monarchy there has been no lack of animated politics. **The ecclesiastical bills in Hungary** whose ultimate passage by the Magnates was noted in the last RECORD did not receive the royal signature till December 10. The long delay occasioned pronounced demonstrations of popular dissatisfaction, which turned to extravagant jubilation when the approval was made known. It shortly afterward was revealed, however, that the acceptance of the bills had involved the fall of the successful Wekerle ministry. On December 27 Dr. Wekerle announced his retirement because he lacked the full confidence of the king. A long crisis was eventually terminated, January 14, by the announcement of a cabinet headed by Baron Banffy, which differed not at all in principles from its predecessor. The important change was the ousting of several individuals whose Radical leanings made them especially objectionable to the court. The Banffy ministry announced that it would press the passage of the two ecclesiastical bills that had been rejected by the Magnates. On March 23, however, the upper house again (see last RECORD, p. 779) mutilated the Freedom of Worship Bill and rejected outright that recognizing the Jewish religion. About May 1 the lower house once more adopted the bills in their original form. The course of the Papal Nuncio Agliardi in denouncing the government's ecclesiastical policy called forth from Premier Banffy, May 1, a sharp rebuke, which in turn was severely

commented upon by Count Kalnoky, imperial minister of foreign affairs. The crisis which resulted from the disagreement of the two ministers ended in the resignation of Count Kalnoky, who was succeeded, May 16, by Count Goluchowsky. — An important incident of the *Kulturkampf* has been the formation of a People's Party (*Volkspartei*), under the lead of the Catholic clergy. The platform of this party combines with the defense of religion a number of other purposes which give it an agrarian and Christian-Socialist character. Its membership is chiefly among the peasantry. — The extreme Radicals have found an opportunity for agitation in the return to Hungary of Francis Kossuth, son of the great revolutionist. Kossuth has accepted citizenship under the monarchy, but in other respects maintains the extreme policy of his father, and thus gives the Independence Party a name to conjure with. He was elected to Parliament in April.

ITALY. — The government's preparations for a profitable winter's work in the legislature involved a project for retrenchment in administration expenses to the amount of 43,000,000 lire, and a scheme of radical changes in the land system in Sicily and the southern districts of the mainland, where the agrarian discontent has of late been keen. But **the session of Parliament**, which opened December 3, was brought to an abrupt termination in less than two weeks through a revival of the Banca Romana scandal. From the outset the attacks of the Socialists and Radicals on the government were particularly violent, on account of Crispi's strong measures earlier in the year (see last RECORD). On the 11th, at the demand of the opposition, ex-Premier Giolitti produced a quantity of hitherto unpublished papers relating to the bank scandal. These documents, on examination by a Parliamentary committee, were found to include a number that seemed to implicate Crispi in compromising relations with the bank and its convicted director, Tanlongo. The prime minister at once denounced the documents as fabrications, and entered suit against Giolitti for libel and forgery. To the king he reported that the prospects of a fruitful session had been entirely destroyed by the development of a carefully planned conspiracy of falsehood and slander against the government, and he recommended prorogation. Accordingly, on the 16th the session was indefinitely prorogued, amid protests by the opposition against what they called a *coup d'état*. On January 21 the session was declared formally ended, and on May 8 the king decreed the dissolution of the chamber and appointed May 26 for new elections. — The treasury reports in February and March showed a very encouraging increase in receipts, so that the estimated deficit of 70,000,000 lire is likely to prove considerably smaller. — On the occasion of his birthday in March King Humbert granted an amnesty for a large number of press and political offenses, and especially for the lesser delinquencies during the disturbances a year ago in Massa Carrara and Sicily.

SPAIN. — The Sagasta cabinet struggled through the winter with some success in the midst of the difficulties with which its financial policy was beset. The outbreak of the insurrection in Cuba increased its embarrass-

ment, and its career was definitely terminated by what seemed at first to be a serious **military disturbance at Madrid** in March. On the 16th of that month a body of officers, incensed at certain articles about the army, wrecked the offices of two newspapers in Madrid. In the excitement that ensued the cabinet could not unite on a policy to be adopted, some of the members justifying the officers and demanding rigorous press laws, and others desiring severe measures against the rioters. On the 17th the ministry resigned and General Martinez de Campos was proclaimed captain-general of Madrid. This officer's measures, backed by the knowledge of his character, quickly restored discipline in the army and order in the city. He declined to assume the functions of prime minister, however, and on the 23d a Conservative ministry was announced under Señor Canovas del Castillo. The differences between the journalists and the officers were settled by a general reconciliation, the former admitting the unwarranted bitterness of the attacks on the army, and the latter abandoning their demand that the writers be tried by court-martial. Having been assured of Sagasta's support in carrying through the budget, the new government devoted itself to the situation in Cuba. A large credit was demanded, and General de Campos was appointed governor-general of the province, whither he set sail with a large force on April 4. — Salvador Franch, the chief conspirator in the bomb-throwing plot at the Barcelona theater in 1893 (see this RECORD for June, 1894) was executed November 21.

RUSSIA. — The marriage of the new Czar, Nicholas II, with the Princess Alix of Hesse-Darmstadt was celebrated November 26. — The attitude and actions of the young ruler in political matters have been very closely scrutinized, with a view to detecting any change of general policy in a liberalizing direction. In the circular of November 9 to Russian ministers at foreign courts it was declared that internal development and external peace would be the principles of the new reign. The retirement of General Gourko from the governorship of Poland in December was hailed by the Poles as a great deliverance, in gratitude for which they celebrated the birthday of the Czar with exuberant enthusiasm. The Czar's letter of thanks to the retiring governor, however, betrayed no dissatisfaction with his policy. Count Shuvaloff, the successor of Gourko, signalized his assumption of office by several liberalizing changes in the Polish system. Rumors of an inclination in the Czar toward representative institutions were set definitely at rest by his declaration, January 29, in addressing a deputation of subjects: "I intend to protect the principle of autocracy as firmly and as unswervingly as did my late and never-to-be-forgotten father." A numerous-signed petition of journalists and literary men for a relaxation of the censorship, which has been particularly rigorous and vexatious of late, was refused by the Czar in the middle of April. — The autocratic method of dealing with the early steps to financial panics was illustrated in January, when the minister of finance published an official notice warning the public against the evils that would flow from the excessive speculation

that was then prevalent on the St. Petersburg bourse. In addition, the leading bankers and brokers were summoned and directed to do what they could to stop the speculative fever, under penalty, in extreme cases, of having their establishments closed. According to the newspapers, this action had the effect of sending down rapidly the prices of the stocks principally concerned. — M. de Giers, the minister of foreign affairs, died January 26. His place was filled in February by the appointment of Prince Lobanoff.

MINOR EUROPEAN STATES. — In **Belgium** the leading questions of the period have been connected with the government's projects for regulating the communal franchise and for taking over the Congo State from the king. The Socialists made a vigorous opposition on both issues, and threatened a general strike if universal suffrage were refused. In April, however, the government's bill for an elaborate scheme of qualified suffrage was passed, with only a few demonstrations by the Socialists in the mining regions where strikes are perennial. — A ministerial crisis in **Norway** was precipitated by the final outcome of the elections in November, which left the Radicals still in control of the Storting, though by a reduced majority. Legislative business was practically at a standstill throughout the period under review, since the king refused to dismiss the Conservative ministry. In February a compromise seemed likely as a result of a long conference between the king and the Radical leaders, but the scheme fell through on account of anti-Swedish demonstrations in the Storting. At the beginning of April the king announced his final resolution not to form a Radical ministry, since the constitution did not oblige him to choose his advisers from the majority of the Storting, and since such a choice at the present time would endanger the union with Sweden. The situation in May was regarded as very serious, and as threatening revolution. — On November 12 reports began to be received in western Europe of a great massacre of Armenian Christians by Turkish troops in the preceding summer. The matter soon became and has since remained the subject of general discussion in the press and in diplomatic circles. From the most trustworthy accounts the facts seem to be that the standing tension between Armenians and Kurds in the Sassun district, near the city of Mush, led to disturbances in which the Armenians were brought into an attitude of hostility to the Turkish local authorities. On the representations of the latter a considerable force of regular troops was concentrated by the Porte in the region, and the population of the disturbed region was practically exterminated, with circumstances of barbarity that recall the Bulgarian atrocities twenty years earlier. There seems to have been some ground for the Porte's contention that revolutionary agitators had been at work in the region, but it does not appear that they were responsible for the original disturbances. In December, as a result of the indignation expressed throughout Europe, the Porte appointed a commission of high officials to go to the scene of the trouble and investigate the whole matter.

The investigation began about February 1, but no report had been made public at the close of this RECORD. — In **Servia** a judicial justification for the *coup d'état* of the preceding May (see last RECORD) was supposed to have been found in the trial of a number of Radicals on a charge of plotting to overthrow the king and put Prince Karageorgewitch on the throne. Six of the accused were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment. Experts in Servian politics suggested that the whole proceeding was merely designed to promote the government's success in the elections for the Skupschtina in April. At these elections the Radicals refrained from voting, on the ground of excessive governmental interference, and accordingly a huge ministerial majority was returned. The Assembly met April 22 and ratified the acts of the king in the last *coup d'état*. — Despite the official intimation that the new Czar would maintain the same attitude as his father toward **Bulgaria**, the Russophil tendencies of the Stoiloff ministry have remained conspicuous. At the beginning of January a general amnesty for political offences was enacted, in consequence of which M. Zankoff, the famous Russophil agitator, returned from exile and was received in audience by Prince Ferdinand. The animosity of the government against ex-Premier Stamboloff has been manifested in the charge that he was implicated in the murder of M. Beltscheff in 1891 (see this RECORD for June, 1891, p. 399). An order for his arrest in January aroused so much indignation both at home and abroad that it was not executed. — A new cabinet in **Greece**, headed by Nicholas Delyannis, assumed office after the resignation of Tricoupis, January 22. The occasion for the change was a difference of opinion between the government and the crown prince, who commanded the military in Athens, as to the course to be pursued in dealing with popular meetings to denounce the government's tax schemes. It is alleged that the real cause of M. Tricoupis's withdrawal was his despair of settling the financial questions with the existing legislature. An appeal to the electorate followed the crisis and resulted in the defeat of the Tricoupis party.

AFRICA. — In November an arrangement went into effect by which the police administration in **Egypt** was brought more under British influence and control. The whole police organization of the country was centered in the ministry of the interior, which was equipped with English advisers to guide its action. In February, at the instance of Lord Cromer, a special tribunal was created, with summary powers, to deal with offenses against members of the British army of occupation. The budget for 1895 showed an estimated surplus of nearly £700,000. — In Abyssinia the Italian forces have continued their progress inland from the coast, and by a series of victories over Ras Mangascia have established themselves in the chief towns of Tigre, the northernmost province of Abyssinia. — **War between France and Madagascar** resulted from the failure of the special mission of M. le Myre de Villiers (see last RECORD). The Hova government in October refused a satisfactory answer to the formal demands (1) that no relations with

foreign governments and their agents should be maintained except through the French resident-general; (2) that no concession should be granted to any foreigner save with the resident's approval; (3) that the French should have the right to maintain in Madagascar a force sufficient to insure the safety of foreigners; and (4) that the French should be permitted to construct roads, railways, telegraphs, *etc.*, and to receive the revenue from them when the Hova government should fail to assume the expense of the works. Upon the failure of this ultimatum all the French residents left the capital, and preparations began in France for a military expedition. A war credit of 65,000,000 francs was voted November 26, but it was not till April that the main part of the expedition, under General Duchesne, set sail from Marseilles. Preliminary French victories on the coast were reported early in May.

CHINA AND JAPAN. — A continuation of Japan's military and naval successes during the winter brought the war between these powers to a triumphant end in April. The advance of the Japanese armies into Manchuria along the coast resulted, November 21–22, in the capture of China's most important naval station, Port Arthur, with vast military stores. The further land operations in this region were greatly retarded by the severity of the winter weather and by the somewhat increased energy of the Chinese. On March 5, however, the Japanese finally carried the important town of Newchwang, which had for some time been their objective. Meanwhile their fleet and a second army had moved against Wei-Hai-Wei, a strongly fortified port at the opposite (southern) entrance to the gulf of Pechili, and after severe fighting this place was captured, February 17, with all of the Chinese navy that escaped destruction. Long before this the efforts of the government of the United States, through its ministers in Pekin and Tokio, had been successful in opening the way to peace negotiations. In December the Chinese government decided to send plenipotentiaries to Japan, and asked ex-Secretary of State J. W. Foster to accompany them as adviser. The plenipotentiaries met the Japanese ministers at Hiroshima February 1, but on the following day were dismissed because the powers given in their credentials were unsatisfactory. After six weeks more of preliminary discussion through the American ministers, two commissioners with full powers were despatched to meet the Japanese ministers at Shimonoseki. On March 24, at the end of the third conference of the negotiators, Li Hung Chang, the chief Chinese representative, was seriously wounded by a pistol shot fired by a fanatical Japanese in the street. The regret of the Japanese Emperor for so serious an offense against international right was practically manifested in a much more concessive spirit, and the negotiations were greatly expedited. An armistice was agreed to, and on April 17 a treaty of peace was signed. The terms included the recognition of Korean independence; the cession to Japan of Formosa and some smaller islands, and the peninsula of Liao-Tung, including Port Arthur; a large war indemnity; and a very great relaxation of the restrictions on foreign industry and com-

merce in China. After the modification of the territorial clauses, in deference to the European powers (see above, p. 375), ratifications were exchanged at Cheefoo, May 8. — Parliamentary proceedings in Japan have continued to be perfectly harmonious, under the influence of the national war spirit. The great military appropriations have been voted unanimously.

HAWAII. — An armed **uprising of royalists**, headed by former officers of the deposed queen, took place January 6. The government promptly adopted radical measures for its suppression, and after three days of desultory fighting near Honolulu all the active insurgents were either killed or captured. After the termination of hostilities the government made numerous arrests of royalist sympathizers, and on the 16th the ex-Queen Liliuokalani was taken into custody. On the 24th the latter formally renounced all her claims to the throne and swore allegiance to the republic. She was brought to trial, however, with a large number of her former adherents, on various charges connected with the uprising. The trials were by a military commission, and resulted in a large number of convictions. The ex-queen was found guilty of misprision of treason and was sentenced to five years' imprisonment. Extreme sentences imposed upon the active leaders in the uprising were mitigated by President Dole so that no execution occurred, imprisonment or banishment being substituted. By March 1 all the cases had been disposed of and normal conditions were fully restored.

LATIN AMERICA. — Several instances of **friction with European powers** have assumed prominence during the period under review. Venezuela's long-standing controversy with Great Britain over the boundary in the Orinoco region has attracted some attention on account of the resolution of the Congress of the United States endorsing President Cleveland's recommendation that the matter be submitted to arbitration. Venezuela has had trouble with other European countries in connection with claims for damages arising out of the civil disturbances. The German and Spanish ministers withdrew from Caracas during the winter, and in March the ministers of France and Belgium were peremptorily dismissed, on account of the publication of a paper which had been formulated, but never presented, reflecting severely upon the Venezuelan administration and demanding the establishment of mixed tribunals to pass upon foreigners' claims. Through the good offices of Italy progress toward a settlement of the difficulties was made in April. In March Spain brought about a settlement of the French claims against San Domingo which had caused a diplomatic rupture of two years' standing. — The action of Nicaragua in summarily expelling British subjects from the country in connection with the troubles on the Mosquito coast in the summer of 1894 (see last RECORD, p. 784) led to a peremptory demand by the British government, February 26, for £15,500 damages. Nicaragua's request for arbitration was ignored until this specific amount should be paid, as satisfaction for the treatment of a Mr. Hatch, who was held to have had an official character as British proconsul. As Nicaragua failed to comply with the demand, a British naval

force, upon three days' notice, occupied the port of Corinto, on the Pacific, April 27, and proceeded to take the customs dues in order to satisfy the claim. No resistance was offered by the Nicaraguan authorities. On May 3 an agreement was reached by which Nicaragua undertook, under a guarantee of the government of Salvador, to pay the money within a fortnight, and accordingly two days later the British forces withdrew.—A boundary dispute between Mexico and Guatemala, which assumed a warlike aspect during the winter, was adjusted April 1 by treaty.—**Revolutionary uprisings** have occurred in Colombia, Peru and Cuba. That in the first-named state was declared suppressed in March. In Peru an unsettled political situation following the death of President Bermudez, in the spring of 1894, resulted in a formidable uprising in the winter against his successor, Caceres. On March 17 the insurgents, of whom Pierola was the chief leader, carried Lima by storm, put the government to flight and installed a provisional organization. In the last week of February a concerted movement by Cuban agitators in the United States and San Domingo resulted in the landing of a number of bands in Cuba, where a revolution was proclaimed. Desultory fighting has been going on ever since, and in May the rebels manifested themselves in considerable force. Martial law has been proclaimed by the government and large forces of troops have been concentrated in the threatened regions, mostly in the eastern end of the island. General Martinez Campos, having been appointed governor-general, reached Cuba in the middle of April.—The new president of Brazil, Prudente Moraes, took office quietly November 15. His policy was soon shown to be one of peace and reconciliation among the factions of the land, and it has thus far proved successful. An amnesty for political offenders was proclaimed early in his term, and considerable progress was made later in pacifying the disturbed state of Rio Grande do Sul.—In the Argentine Republic President Saenz Pefia came into serious conflict with the Congress in January by refusing the latter's request for an amnesty for participants in the last insurrection. On January 22, after his cabinet had abandoned him and he had failed to find another, the president resigned his office. His resignation was accepted with but one dissenting vote, and Vice-President Uriburu assumed the vacant post.

WM. A. DUNNING.